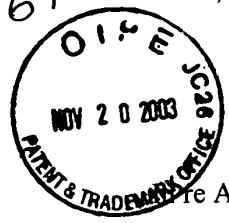


AF/1714

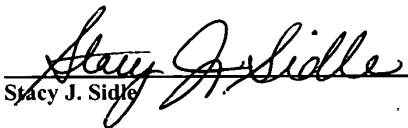
61



Reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group 1714.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:  
Brent Kevin Larson  
For: ELASTOMER COMPOSITION WHICH  
CONTAINS INTERCALATED AND  
EXFOLIATED CLAY REINFORCEMENT  
FORMED IN SITU WITHIN THE  
ELASTOMER HOST AND ARTICLE, SUCH  
AS A TIRE, HAVING AT LEAST ONE  
COMPONENT THEREOF  
Serial No.: 09/897,315  
Filed: July 2, 2001

) Confirmation No.: 1737  
) Docket No.: DN2001138  
) Art Unit: 1714  
) Examiner: Katarzyna I. Wyrozebski  
) I hereby certify that this correspondence is  
being deposited with the United States Postal  
Service as first class mail in an envelope  
addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for  
Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA  
22313-1450, on the 18th day of November,  
2003.  
)   
) Stacy J. Sidle

Main Stop AF  
Commissioner of Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED  
NOV 25 2003  
TC 1700

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Final Rejection Official Action dated August 27, 2003,  
Paper No. 6, please make the following amendments in order to more particularly point out  
and distinctly claim the Applicant's invention.